

# New Medical College of Ohio Sets Record With First Classes Sept. 15

From The Blade: Toledo

The new Medical College of Ohio here already shares a national record, its president told 12 state representatives and senators touring the facility Thursday.

Dr. Glidden Brooks said that no medical school ever admitted its first class in a shorter period of time after its formation than the Toledo college, which has enrolled a 33-member initial class.

Classes are scheduled to begin Sept. 15, just 4½ years after the school was established by the Ohio General Assembly and little more than 3 years after its president was named.

Dr. Brooks said that the University of California - Davis medical school, which began classes last September, spent a like amount of time from formation to classes but no other college ever spent less.

Such an early start — at least two years ahead of the timetable set up when the college was created — would not be possible without the temporary campus that has been established in and adjacent to William Roche Memorial Hospital, including activities in Maumee Valley Hospital and Toledo State Hospital, Dr. Brooks explained.

In addition, he said, the college has been able to locate some operations temporarily at the University of Toledo and the Institute for Medical

Research, a privately endowed research laboratory at Toledo Hospital.

Dr. Brooks said that, in addition to allowing the early start of classes, the "surge pace" also has enabled the new college to attract top faculty members. He said that when the UCLA medical college was formed years ago, it did not have such temporary space and, as a result, had to hire an almost entirely new faculty by the time classes began. He explained that faculty members hired originally became restless at having nowhere to work, and many left for other jobs.

The president said that, in a way, the temporary separation of the college's activities in state, county, and private facilities is symbolic of the college's goal—to serve as a medical center for all of northwest Ohio.

The college will do much more than teach medical students, Dr. Brooks explained. "It can have a great impact throughout the region, particularly in health as it relates to the community."

The Toledo school will spend more time with physicians in the community than most medical schools ever dreamed of in the past, the lawmakers were told. Without such continuing education, Dr. Brooks added, advances such as heart transplants would be impossible.

He told the legislators that their decision to create an in-

dependent college, rather than one that was a part of TU, was wise "because it allows the college to identify in a larger community orbit." He said he feels that the college would not possibly be able to work throughout northwest Ohio if it were more a part of TU than is currently planned. But he noted that TU, Bowling Green State University, and other area institutions are "partners in the enterprise."

"We won't allow an ivory tower to be built here," Dr. Brooks said.

Dr. Robert Page, dean, told the visitors that the curriculum will be one of the most advanced in the nation.

Because all medical students don't need the same education, Dr. Page said, the curriculum for the first class is flexible.

Students will proceed at their own rate, he said. "They will learn what they want, for the most part, but, of course, there will be certain basic requirements for all," the dean explained.

Some students will be able to complete medical school in three years, he added; others will need five. But he said there should not be a stigma attached to the student who takes longer. "Perhaps he will take longer because he'll want to go into more depth in areas he may be particularly interested in," Dr. Page said. "Our curriculum will allow him to do so."

Dr. Page said the 33-member class is larger than he had expected. He explained that more than 400 applications were received.

Dr. Page said that 50 applicants were accepted, and normal practice in medical education is that about half will accept the offer. The number of acceptances here, however, was extraordinary, he said.

The legislators were told that some \$400,000 in research grants already had been received by faculty members.

Dr. Page said \$123,000 in federal grants already have been issued, and an additional \$219,000 in federal grants have been approved but not received. Dr. Page said that an additional \$41,000 has been received from voluntary agencies and foundations, and \$38,000 more from the Carnegie Foundation and Eli Lilly Co., Indianapolis.

In addition, he said the regional medical program for heart, cancer, and stroke will bring an additional \$800,000 into the area for continuing education and care.

Making the tour were Republican Reps. Charles Kurfess, of Bowling Green, speaker of the House; Ralph Fisher, of Wooster, chairman of the finance committee; Mack Pemberton, of Columbus; Don Goddard, of Bartlett; Joseph Heistand, of Hillsboro; Robert Levitt, of Canton; John Galbraith, of Maumee, and Donald Fraser, of Sylva; Democratic Reps. Philip DeLaine, of Cleveland, Walter Rutkowski, of Maple Heights, and Donald Nowack, of Garfield Heights.

State Sen. Robert Cortis